

WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of the Whole
MEETING NOTES
approved 2/27/20

Date: November 14, 2019

Present: Chair Belmarsh, Dr. Sullivan, Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw, Mrs. Curran and Superintendent Curtis-Whipple, Mr. Smith, Mrs. Nardone, Mr. Sheehan

Absent: Mayor Hedlund, Mrs. Sheehan

Call to Order

At 6:12 p.m. Chair Belmarsh called the meeting to order.

Chair Belmarsh reviewed the evaluation process so far: The Superintendent presented her goals to the Committee, all committee members completed individual evaluations, Chair Belmarsh compiled them all into one document, the committee then had a chance to review and make changes if they wanted to their submissions.

Mrs. Sheehan asked if the evaluation should be discussed at a televised public meeting. The chair stated that she did not trust Mrs. Sheehan to be professional about the evaluation. Mrs. Nardone stated that no other public body has their evaluation done in a public forum. The Mayor appoints the chief police, fire etc. Their evaluations are not in public. She understands that we have a job to do but we do not have to have a forum for public shaming. Mrs. Nardone stated this not the way she runs her business.

Chair Belmarsh stated that the meeting of the whole is a public forum, there is no requirement for the evaluation to be on TV.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that she appreciates the evaluation being done in this forum. She also stated that there were some concerning comments in terms of factual accuracy from some members on some of the evaluations yet no meetings were set up to meet with her. She has concerns that these comments were made without having any conversation with her at all.

Mrs. Nardone shared that she completed her evaluation immediately in July and a lot of things have changed since then. It is hard evaluating things that happened in the past and changes were made for the better.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple brought up that the last time this was discussed was that Mrs. Curran stated she shared her document with Mrs. Sheehan and they were working on the document together.

Mrs. Curran stated they were not doing it together.

Chair Belmarsh stated that this is an excellent evaluation overall and there has been much progress over the past three years with things coming to fruition.

Mrs. Nardone shared that the items she put needs improvement on when she filled out the evaluation she would not categorize as such now.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated that she has no issue with unsatisfactory/needs improvement rating. It is not a bad thing and we all need to grow. There is more of an issue with not having a meeting about it and getting clarity of why the committee member evaluated her that way.

The Chair recognized Ms. Elizabeth Foster-Nolan. Ms. Foster-Nolan asked if there will be a report out at the next school committee meeting and when the evaluation is final will it be posted to the website? She feels from a public perspective that yes the evaluation has been done and from a transparency perspective it is there and there is no further discussion needed.

The Chair will take Ms. Foster-Nolan's comments into consideration.

The Chair asked if there are other changes or tweaks to the evaluation document needed?

Mrs. Sheehan stated this is the first time she is seeing it all together. She also shared that she had a hard time deciding on how to rate the superintendent.

Mrs. Sheehan also asked when it is posted to the website we should put a how to read for the public. Dr. Sullivan agreed and also thinks we should have a summary.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple thanked the Committee and appreciates their comments and feedback.

Open Forum

Mrs. Curran shared that when she attended the MASC conference she saw a demo and brought back information about a large scale printer that can print posters and decals for the floors of schools. These are very popular and she felt if principals were interested they could buy one out of their gift accounts. They cost approximately \$4500 and setup, training and support is included.

She also asked if we should look into using an outside company to use for substitutes.

Mrs. Curran also shared that there were vendors with "rent a crate", they are easier to move, can stack and move on wheels and wondered if they would be helpful with all the moves associated with the Chapman project.. Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated that HMFH works with certain companies and will take care of everything.

The Chair asked if there was anything else from the Committee.

Mrs. Sheehan stated to the chair she would like to know "why you don't always tell the truth" She was speaking in reference to the nomination of Ms. Flemer and Ms. Hanson for MASC awards. Mrs. Sheehan went on to say that the school committee would have needed to vote on those nominations if they were on behalf of the school committee. Chair Belmarsh stated that she did not submit as the chair but as an individual school committee member. She stated she had spoken with Glenn Koocher

from MASC about this. Mrs. Sheehan went on to say that the award was presented from MASC and the Weymouth School Committee and the nominations should have been voted.

Mrs. Curran concurred that if this was from the School Committee there should have been a vote and just wants things to be done the way they should be.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated that these awards are a positive thing for Ms. Flemer and Ms. Hansen and wishes that we could stop discussing this as we have discussed it on multiple occasions.

Chair Belmarsh stated that this is just another shot at her from Mrs. Sheehan and the meeting should move on.

Mrs. Sheehan asked if everyone had gotten the anonymous letters. The Chair stated we do not comment on anonymous letters and called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw, seconded by Dr. Sullivan the Weymouth School Committee Meeting of the Whole was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Documents related to the meeting dated: 11/14/20

Superintendent evaluation

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Sullivan", is written above a horizontal line.

John Sullivan – Secretary